

REMARKS

Claim 27 is pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, 16 and 19-26 are cancelled.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments simply cancel claims.

The objection to the drawings has been rendered moot because the objectionable phrase "ribbed structure" has been removed.

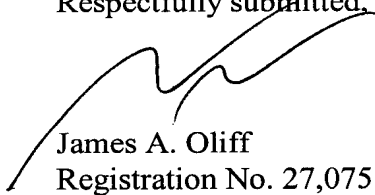
The rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 11-13, 16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,166,498 to Yamaguchi et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,460,234 to Matsuura et al. has been rendered moot.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 20 and the allowance of claim 27.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James A. Oliff', is written over the typed name and registration number.

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Date: March 9, 2009

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